

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT:	BUCKNER <i>et al.</i>	}	
SERIAL NO.:	10/599,662		EXAMINER: PORTER, JR., GARY A.
FILED:	OCTOBER 4, 2006		ART UNIT: 3766
TITLE:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE SURGICAL TREATMENT OF CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE		CONFIRMATION NO.: 2433

**VIA EFS**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REMARKS**

Sir:

Applicant responds to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2008 as follows:

Claim amendments begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 9.